(b) if so, whether these aspects were not taken into consideration while formulating the targets for power sector for the Plan; and

(c) what effective steps are being taken so that these projects are completed in time and the chronic power shortage does not hamper the growth of the industrial, agricultural operations, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The following steps have been taken for timely commissioning of Eleventh Plan generation projects:

According to information received from Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), it has enhanced its capacity to deliver 10,000 MW of main plant equipment per annum. Furthermore, they have put in place an action plan to enhance capacity to deliver 15,000 MW per annum by December, 2009.

A Joint Venture Agreement has been signed between NTPC Ltd. and BHEL to take up work related to Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) for power plants and other infrastructure project, NTPC Ltd. has also entered into an MoU with Bharat Forge Limited to promote a joint venture company initially to take up the manufacture of castings, forgings, fittings and high pressure pipings.

Private sector power equipment manufacturers have also set up power generation equipment manufacture facilities.

All stakeholders have been sensitized towards enlarging the vendor base so as to meet the Balance of Plants (BoP) requirements.

To address the issue of shortage of manpower, Ministry of Power has taken 'Adopt an Industrial Training Institute (ITI)' initiative and power project developers have been asked to adopt an ITI in the vicinity of the project area to build the skilled and semi-skilled work force required for the projects.

There is an acute shortage of gas for power projects. Only those gas based projects have been taken up for which gas has already been tied up. An additional capacity of 13,000 MW gas based projects is feasible only if gas is made available to reasonable price.

The monitoring mechanism has been made more robust. The Central Electricity Authority has got a nodal official associated with each on-going project who continuously monitors the progress at site through frequent visits and continuous interaction. A Power Project Monitoring Panel (PPMP) comprising of 7 independent monitoring consultants is also being operationalised.

Loans for PGCIL

2891. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) has recently signed agreements for loans with the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the loan amount would be utilized by the Corporation; and

(d) to what extent power position would improve in various parts of the country, as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) has signed agreements for following two loans on 28.03.2008:

(i) The World Bank — US$ 600 million;

(ii) Asian Development Bank — US$ 400 million.

(c) The loan amount will be utilized for financing a basket of PGCIL's transmission projects during Eleventh plan, to strengthen transmission system and also enhance inter-regional power transmission capacity in the country. The list of projects is enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

(d) The PGCIL develops inter-state & inter-regional transmission system for transfer of power from various central sector generation projects and other projects involving inter-state power transfer to different beneficiaries across the country.

The PGCIL has formulated a large number of transmission schemes as a part of transmission system of various Central Sector Generation Projects/Ultra Mega Power Projects as well as Grid Strengthening Schemes to enhance inter-regional power transfer capacity from about 17,000 MW at present to more than 37,000 MW by 2012.

Statement

Details of Projects for which the loan amount will be utilized

A. PROJECTS COVERED UNDER US$ 600 MILLION LOAN (PSDP-IV) FROM THE WORLD BANK

(1) Transmission System associated with Barh Project

(2) North-West Transmission Corridor Strengthening Scheme

(3) East-West Transmission Corridor Strengthening Scheme

(4) Western Region System Strengthening Scheme-II

(5) Eastern Region System Strengthening Scheme-I

B. PROJECTS COVERED UNDER US$ 400 MILLION LOAN (ADB-IV) FROM ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

(1) Transmission System associated with Tehri Pumped Storage Plant

(2) North Eastern—Northern/Western Region Interconnector-I Project.

Coal/Gas shortage in power projects

2892. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several power projects in the country are facing coal/gas shortages;

(b) whether due to coal and gas shortage, the production capacity of such power plants has come down; and